AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-25 are pending in the instant application. Claims 2-8, 10-16 and 19 have been amended. The Applicant requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following amendments reflected in the listing of claims.

Listing of claims:

1. (original) A method for access point aggregation and resiliency in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the method comprising:

determining at least one available switch port having a capability to handle a first access point group, said first access point group having a first default switch port;

provisioning said at least one available switch port to provide service to said first access point group; and

communicating information using at least one of said first default switch port and said at least one provisioned switch port

2. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said determining ~~further~~ comprises selecting said at least one available switch port from a reserved pool of available switch ports.

3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2, ~~further~~ comprising returning said selected at least one available switch port to said reserved pool of

available switch ports upon abatement of a need to utilize said provisioned at least one available switch port.

4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~further~~ comprising selecting said at least one available switch port from at least one of a first switching element and a second switching element, said first default switch port being associated with said first switching element.

5. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~further~~ comprising determining at least one a second available switch port having a capability to handle a second access point group, said second access point group having a second default switch port.

6. (currently amended) The method according to claim 5, ~~further~~ comprising provisioning at least a third available switch port to provide service to said second access point group.

7. (currently amended) The method according to claim 6, ~~further~~ comprising switching between any two of said at least one available switch port, said at least a second available switch port and said at least a third available switch port.

8. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~further~~ comprising switching between said default switch port and said at least one available switch port in a time period less than on the order of a few milliseconds from at least one of a detectable link failure and a configuration change.

9. (original) A machine-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having at least one code section for access point aggregation and resiliency in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the at least one code section executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps comprising:

determining at least one available switch port having a capability to handle a first access point group, said first access point group having a first default switch port;

provisioning said at least one available switch port to provide service to said first access point group; and

communicating information using at least one of said first default switch port and said at least one provisioned switch port.

10. (currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 9, ~~further~~ comprising code for selecting said at least one available switch port from a reserved pool of available switch ports.

11. (currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 10, ~~further~~ comprising code for returning said selected at least one available switch port to said reserved pool of available switch ports upon abatement of a need to utilize said provisioned at least one available switch port.

12. (currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 9[[1]], ~~further~~ comprising code for selecting said at least one available switch port

from at least one of a first switching element and a second switching element, said first default switch port being associated with said first switching element.

13. (currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 9, ~~further~~ comprising code for determining at least one a second available switch port having a capability to handle a second access point group, said second access point group having a second default switch port.

14. (currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 13, ~~further~~ comprising code for provisioning at least a third available switch port to provide service to said second access point group.

15. (currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 14, ~~further~~ comprising code for switching between any two of said at least one available switch port, said at least a second available switch port and said at least a third available switch port.

16. (currently amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 9, ~~further~~ comprising code for switching between said default switch port and said at least one available switch port in a time period less than on the order of a few milliseconds from at least one of a detectable link failure and a configuration change.

17. (original) A system for access point aggregation and resiliency in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the system comprising:

at least one processor adapted to determine at least one available switch port having a capability to handle a first access point group, said first access point group having a first default switch port;

said at least one processor adapted to provisioning said at least one available switch port to provide service to said first access point group; and

said at least one processor adapted to communicate information using at least one of said first default switch port and said at least one provisioned switch port.

18. (original) The system according to claim 17, wherein said at least one processor is adapted to select said at least one available switch port from a reserved pool of available switch ports.

19. (currently amended) The system according to claim 18, wherein said at least one processor is adapted to return said selected at least one available switch port to said reserved pool of available switch ports upon abatement of a need to utilize said provisioned at least one available switch port.

20. (original) The system according to claim 17, wherein said at least one processor is adapted to select said at least one available switch port from at least one of a first switching element and a second switching element, said first default switch port being associated with said first switching element.

21. (original) The system according to claim 17, wherein said at least one processor is adapted to determine at least one a second available switch port

having a capability to handle a second access point group, said second access point group having a second default switch port.

22. (original) The system according to claim 21 wherein said at least one processor is adapted to provision at least a third available switch port to provide service to said second access point group.

23. (original) The system according to claim 22, wherein said at least one processor is adapted to switching between any two of said at least one available switch port, said at least a second available switch port and said at least a third available switch port.

24. (original) The system according to claim 17, wherein said at least one processor is adapted to switch between said default switch port and said at least one available switch port in a time period less than on the order of a few milliseconds from at least one of a detectable link failure and a configuration change.

25. (original) The system according to claim 17, wherein said at least one processor is at least one of a switch processor, a bandwidth management controller, a quality of service controller, a load balancing controller, a session controller and a network management controller.